

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 OMB-01

EB-07 TRSE-00 COME-00 ACDA-07 /091 W

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O R 231830Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4740

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

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LONDON AND NAIROBI FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

DEPT PLEASE REPEAT TO OTHER POSTS AS DESIRED

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OAU, XF, XA, SG

SUBJ: AFRO-ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS: PARTIAL SUCCESS

REF: DAKAR 2443, DAKAR 2381, ABIDJAN 3423

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1. SUMMARY: AFRO-ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE CLOSED APRIL

22. DIFFERENCES WERE SUFFICIENTLY SERIOUS THAT FINAL COMMUNIQUE WAS NOT ADOPTED, AND TIME, PLACE FOR AFRO-ARAB SUMMIT WAS NOT RPT NOT ESTABLISHED, BUT COMPROMISE WAS REACHED ON DRAFT DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES AND ACTION PROGRAM. IVORY COAST HUNG TIGHT ON ZIONISM, AND FILED LETTER OF RESERVATION WITH OAU SYG ETEKI MBOUMOUA WHEN ZIONISM WAS INCLUDED AMONG CONDEMNED "-ISMS" (COLONIALISM, IMPERIALISM, ETC.) IN FINAL DECLARATION. ARABS PROMISED \$6 MILLION LOW-INTEREST LOAN TO MOZAMBIQUE TO COMPENSATE FOR LATTER'S APPLICATION OF SANCTIONS AGAINST RHODESIA, BUT DRAFT CONSIDERED VAGUE ENOUGH TO BE DISAPPOINTING BY MANY AFRICANS. ANGOLA, GUINEA ABSENCE "REGRETTED" BY OAU SYG MBOUMOUA. END SUMMARY

2. FIRST AFRO-ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE CONCLUDED IN DAKAR ON SCHEDULE APRIL 22. CLOSING CEREMONY WAS DELAYED FOR ONE AND ONE HALF HOURS IN LAST-MINUTE UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE REMAINING DIFFERENCES. FINAL COMMUNIQUE WAS NOT ADOPTED DUE TO DIFFERENCES OF OPINION, NOR WERE DATE AND SITE APPROVED FOR UP-COMING AFRO-ARAB SUMMIT. CAIRO HAD BEEN WIDELY ASSUMED TO BE VENUE WITH JUNE OR JULY AS ROUGH TIME FRAME, BUT CONCERN AS TO PHYSICAL SECURITY OF SOME 60 HEADS OF STATE, AS WELL AS POLITICAL OBJECTIONS FROM UNNAMED ARABS MEANT THAT QUESTION WAS PASSED OFF TO OAU'S MBOUMOUA AND ARAB LEAGUE'S RIAD FOR SUGGESTIONS. SUBSEQUENT SPECULATION CENTERED AROUND JANUARY, 1977 DATE FOR SUMMIT.

3. COMPARISON OF DRAFT FINAL COMMUNIQUE (WHICH WAS REJECTED) WITH DRAFT SUBMITTED BY OAU'S PREPARATORY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE, WHICH MET IN ADDIS ABABA ON MARCH 26-27, 1976, INDICATES THAT OAU DRAFT WAS TECHNICAL, CALLING FOR SPECIFIC STEPS IN ECONOMIC COOPERATION. HOWEVER, DRAFT REJECTED BY DAKAR CONFERENCE WAS HIGHLY POLITICAL, FOR EXAMPLE, INCLUDING PROCLAMATION OF TOTAL SUPPORT FOR FIGHT OF PEOPLE OF PALESTINE, ZIMBABWE, NAMIBIA, "AZANIA" AND FRENCH SOMILAND FOR RECOVERY OF THEIR "LEGITIMATE NATIONAL RIGHTS."

4. DRAFT DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES AND ACTION PROGRAM WERE ACCEPTED WITH MODIFICATIONS FOR SUBMISSION TO PROJECTED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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JOINT OAU-ARAB LEAGUE SUMMIT. THIS DRAFT FOLLOWS CLOSELY DRAFT DEVELOPED AT JOINT MEETING OF OAU AND ARAB LEAGUE COMMITTEES OF 12 IN CAIRO FROM JULY 9-10, 1975. MODIFICATIONS ARE MAINLY EDITORIAL, EXCEPT FOR STRENGTHENING OF LANGUAGE CONCERNING PREFERENTIAL TRADE LINKS. DECLARATION AND ACTION PROGRAM ARE PRIMARILY TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC, CALLING FOR CLOSER COOPERATION IN WIDE RANGE OF ACTIVITIES (E.G. PETROLEUM EXPLORATION, MINING, FORESTRY, EDUCATION,

CULTURE, ETC.).

5. DESPITE FINAL SIMILARITY OF DRAFTS THERE WAS HEATED ARGUMENT OVER THEIR LANGUAGE. IVORY COAST MOVED TO DELETE ZIONISM FROM PROFORMA LIST OF CONDEMNED "-ISMS"(COLONIALISM, NEO-COLONIALISM, ETC.) THEY HUNG TOUGH ON THIS FOR TWO DAYS, BUT FINALLY AGREED TO FINAL DRAFT STATING QUOTE: AFRICAN AND ARAB CUNTRIES ... CONDEMN IMPERIALISM, COLONIALISM, NEO-COLONIALISM, ZIONISM, APARTHEID, AND ALL OTHER FORMS OF RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION AND SEGREGATION, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA, PALESTINE AND THE OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES." IN END, HOWEVER, IVORY COAST SUBMITTED FORMAL LETTER OF RESERVATION REGARDING INCLUSION OF ZIONISM TO OAU SECGEN MBOUMOUA, WHO ACKNOWLEDGED RECEIPT OF THEIR COMMUNICATION AT POST-CONFERENCE PRESS BRIEFING. QUESTION OF EXPULSION OF ISRAEL DOES NOT APPEAR IN DECLARATION OR PROGRAM OF ACTION, AND WE HEARD IN CORRIDORS NO RPT NO INDICATION THAT IT WAS DISCUSSED.

6. OTHER POLITICAL ISSUES INCLUDED ANTI-FRENCH HARANGUES BY SOMALIA AND COMORO ISLANDS, TUFF BETWEEN NIGERIA/GABON AND NON-OIL PRODUCING AFRICANS, AND MOZAMBIQUE'S REQUEST FOR SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO COMPENSATE FOR ITS APPLICATION OF SANCTIONS TO RHODESIA. \$6 MILLION LOAN TO MAZAMBIQUE FROM ARAB FUND FOR EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE WAS AGREED TO, AT 1 PERCENT INTEREST, REPAYABLE IN 27 YEARS, WITH 10 YEAR GRACE PERIOD.

7. ONLY INTER-ARAB ARGUING TO FILTER OUT WAS MOROCCAN REQUEST TO ADD "HEGEMONY" TO LIST OF CONDEMNED -ISMS, IN APPARENT ATTEMPT TO NEEDLE ALGERIANS AND SOVIETS. ATTEMPT FAILED.

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8. POUCHING TO DEPARTMENT ALISAVAILABLE DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING SPEECH TEXTS, LIST OF PARTICIPANTS, AND FINAL DECLARATION.

9. COMMENT: CONFERENCE'S ABILITY TO REACH AGREEMENT ON DECLARATION AND PROGRAM OF ACTION PARTIALLY REFLECTS CONTINUING DRAFT STATUS WHICH THESE DOCUMENTS WILL HAVE UNTIL THEY ARE GIVEN FINAL APPROVAL BY AFRO-ARAB SUMMIT. ON OTHER HAND, CONSENSUS AT CONFERENCE WAS NOT SUFFICIENT TO PERMIT AGREEMENT ON JOINT COMMUNIQUE INTENDED TO BE MADE PUBLIC.
AGGREY

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